



POLITICS
Mitt Romney
kicks off his
Utah race for
U.S. Senate
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bombs for a
wildflower
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DAMAGE
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7.2 Mexico
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buildings
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Pasadena Star-News

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H: 75
L: 48

H: 65
L: 46

H: 57
L: 40

See the full weather
forecast » PAGE B12

WASHINGTON

13 accused of election meddling

Mueller indicts Russians for allegedly plotting to disrupt U.S. presidential campaign in an effort to – in part – help Trump win

By Eric Tucker
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON » In an extraordinary indictment, the U.S. special counsel accused 13 Russians Friday of an elaborate plot to disrupt the 2016 presidential election, charging them with running

a huge but hidden social media trolling campaign aimed in part at helping Republican Donald Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton. The federal indictment, brought by special counsel Robert Mueller, represents the most detailed allegations to date of il-

legal Russian meddling during the campaign that sent Trump to the White House. It also marks the first criminal charges against Russians believed to have secretly worked to influence the outcome. The Russian organization was funded by Yevgeny Prigozhin, the

RUSSIA » PAGE 8



President Donald Trump in Florida says the Russian indictments clear him and his campaign of collusion.

MANUEL BALCE
CENETA
THE ASSOCIATED
PRESS

FLORIDA MASSACRE

FBI had tips about gunman

Shooter was described as having a ‘desire to kill’

By Kelli Kennedy, Curt Anderson and Tamara Lush
The Associated Press

PARKLAND, FLA. » The FBI received a tip last month that the suspect in the Florida school shooting had a “desire to kill” and access to guns and could be plotting an attack, but agents failed to investigate, the agency said Friday. Florida Gov. Rick Scott called for the FBI’s director to resign because of the missteps.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the shooting that killed 17 people Wednesday was a “tragic consequence” of the FBI’s failure and ordered a review of the Justice Department’s processes. He said it’s now clear that the nation’s premier law enforcement agency missed warning signs.

FLORIDA » PAGE 6

PYEONGCHANG
WINTER OLYMPICS

WHAT TO WATCH

KNBC-TV, Channel 4
Prime time coverage today features men’s giant slalom, short track, men’s ski jumping and women’s skeleton. In giant slalom, American Ted Ligety will defend his 2014 gold medal. Katie Uhlaender is trying to overcome injury, illness and tragedy to get a place on the podium in women’s skeleton but started slow in the event’s first runs.

THE MEDAL LEADERS

				TOTAL
NORWAY	6	8	5	19
GERMANY	9	2	4	15
NETHER.	6	5	2	13
CANADA	4	5	4	13
AUSTRIA	3	2	4	9
USA	5	1	2	8

COVINA

A SURFEIT OF SURPLUS



PHOTOS BY SARAH REINGEWIRTZ — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Covina Police Chief John Curley defends his department’s collection of \$5.7 million worth of military surplus gear, such as the Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle behind him.

59-member police department is one of the smaller forces in the state and nation to build up its stocks of used military gear

By Jason Henry
jhenry@scng.com
@JasonMHenry on Twitter

In the last five years, the Covina Police Department obtained millions of dollars in military surplus equipment through a federal program often criticized for contributing to the militarization of law enforcement.

With its 59 officers, Covina’s total haul was valued at \$5.7 million — more than double what the Los Angeles and New York police departments acquired in that time, according to an analysis of a national database maintained by the Defense Logistics Agency.

By dollar amount, Covina ranked eighth in the nation and second in the state, behind only the California Highway Patrol. The small depart-



Lt. Dave Foster, who manages the Covina Police Department’s participation in the Department of Defense’s surplus program, stands near a stack of surplus air conditioners.

ment was the only agency in California with a population less than 100,000 to receive more than \$1 million in equipment in the time period reviewed.

The 812 items requested — at an average of \$46,406 per item — came from the Law Enforcement Support Office, a Department of Defense pro-

COVINA » PAGE 4

NBA ALL-STAR GAME

L.A.: The stuff hoop dreams are made of

Six Southland natives return to where they honed skills to be pros

By Ryan Kartje
rkartje@scng.com
@Ryan_Kartje on Twitter

LOS ANGELES » They congregate on sacred Compton blacktop, deep in the heart of South Central, and on sun-drenched, beachside courts, in the shadow of towering palms. They gather at Gladys Park, tucked between concrete walls off skid row and on a mansion’s hidden hardwood in the hills of Bel-Air. They are transients and locals, old and young, black and white, amateurs and NBA stars, homeless and Hollywood elite. But amid the near-infinite sprawl of Los Angeles, a bouncing ball binds them.

Many have tried to distill Los Angeles into sweeping generalizations, only to fall miserably short of capturing its essence.

ALL-STARS » PAGE 6



PHOTO BY SCOTT VARLEY

Norm Cohen, 82, who has been playing basketball at Venice Beach’s basketball courts for decades, practices his jump shot.

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